



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2004

No. 114

Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MICHAEL B. ENZI, a Senator from the State of Wyoming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by Dr. Alan Keiran, Chief of Staff, Office of the Senate Chaplain.

PRAYER

The guest chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God our rock and our fortress, thank You for guarding our lives. Without the unfolding of Your loving providence, we would miss life's music. You set our feet on solid ground and deliver us from our enemies. You have kept us from sorrow and sighing, for we trust You in life's storms.

Today, empower our lawmakers to be instruments of Your will. Remind them that their times are in Your hands as You shield them in Your steadfast love. Give them serenity to accept what they cannot change and courage to change what they can.

Bless the people who labor with them to keep our Nation strong. Sustain them in their work and give them Your wisdom. And bless our Nation. Strengthen her walls with righteousness and surround her with Your peace. Protect our military with Your powerful hand.

We pray this in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MICHAEL B. ENZI led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 21, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL B. ENZI, a Senator from the State of Wyoming, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. ENZI thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for 3 hours. The first hour will be equally divided between the majority and minority. The second 60 minutes will be under the control of the Democratic side of the aisle, and the majority will use the final 60 minutes.

Following this morning business period, the Senate will recess until 2:15 p.m. for the weekly policy luncheons.

This afternoon, the Senate will consider the legislative branch appropriations bill. The order provides for 1 hour of debate and a vote on passage of that legislation. Senators should, therefore, anticipate a rollcall vote later today.

This week the Senate can also expect to consider the Goss nomination, once

that nomination is available for full Senate consideration. We would like to do that as soon as it becomes available. It should be available shortly. So hopefully we can address that nomination tomorrow.

As mentioned yesterday, the Senate may also consider legislation which extends some of the expiring family tax provisions.

Finally, we will continue to work on agreements for some of the remaining appropriations measures. The Senate will consider those bills under short time limitations, if agreements can be reached.

GRAND OPENING OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I want to comment very briefly on something I mentioned in the last week, and that is the grand opening of the National Museum of the American Indian. The grand opening officially is occurring today, actually in a couple of hours. This marks a milestone in American and American Indian history.

Established by an act of Congress in 1989, the museum, which we can all see from the front of the Capitol, is a tribute to the extraordinary achievements and the contributions made by American Indian culture. I had the opportunity 2 nights ago to tour that museum. It is truly remarkable, unique, and unlike any other museum in the Smithsonian group in that the stories are told by participants of the culture.

There are great collections, as so many of the institutions have. It is a cultural experience that comes alive as one goes through this museum, starting on the fourth floor, and continuing to the third, second, and first floor. It is truly remarkable.

It is right here on the National Mall, as everyone in this body knows. It is a prominent symbol of the progress we have made in recognizing and, in many ways, reconciling our shared history.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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